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Nashville District  
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Nashville, TN 37202-1070

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US Army Corps  
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Nashville District

# DistrictDigest

Volume 104, Number 11

Respected-Responsible-Reliable

November 2004

## Focus On Chickamauga Lock

See Page 6



## Just To Be On The Safe Side . . . A Burning Issue

By Kenny Claywell, Conservation  
Biologist, Old Hickory Lake

October was National Fire Safety Month, the time each year we are reminded about the hazards of fires and informed of home safety tips that can both prevent fires and help protect us. Those include testing smoke detectors, installing new batteries in our smoke detectors, learning to properly use a fire extinguisher, developing home fire escape plans, checking extension cords, and taking precautions with heat-producing appliances.

Most of us, however, don't consider the potential hazards of wildfires when we burn leaves or debris blown to the ground by recent storms, or the changing of the seasons.

For that reason, the Old Hickory Lake Resource Manager's Office invited John Kirksey, forest protection chief with the Tennessee Division of Forestry, to speak to the staff concerning wildfire protection and outdoor burning.

Kirksey's presentation proved to be very beneficial and produced reminders each of us should heed.

He reminded everyone that state law requires a permit for open-air burning from October 15 through May 15 and said the Tennessee Division of Forestry

issues 350,000 burning permits each year. He said careless debris burning is the primary cause of wildfires in Tennessee, which result in millions of dollars in damage or lost resources, property and lives.

To safely burn debris, first obtain a burning permit, then notify neighbors at least two days in advance of your burn, have an adequate supply of water and hand tools such as rakes and shovels nearby, establish firebreaks around the area you are burning, be aware of possible weather changes (wind and relative humidity are important weather considerations), control the fire (always have enough help to handle the fire and never try to burn more than you can handle), and always stay with your fire until it is completely out.

It is also a good practice to protect your property by removing debris and



**John Kirksey, forest protection chief, Tennessee Division of Forestry, speaks to the Old Hickory Staff about measures they should take to help protect woodlands from wildfire.**

leaves from around your home, keep your gutters clean of leaf buildup and establish firebreaks if you live in a wooded area.

If you choose not to burn, a good alternative could include composting leaves, grass and twigs. The composting of this debris can yield valuable organic matter that can be used to enrich the soil for gardens and flowerbeds, while helping extend the useful life of landfills. 🌱



# Contents

From Where I Sit ..... 3

October Employee of the Month ..... 3

Bill Barron Named New Chief of H&H ..... 4

Overlook at J. Percy Priest Given Major Facelift ..... 4

Lake Barkley’s Kuttawa Ramp To Be Expanded ..... 5

Congressman Wamp, ASA Woodley Make Announcement ..... 6

Vessel To Sail Lake Cumberland ..... 7

Serving Our Country, Both at Home and Abroad ..... 8

Students at Three Metro Schools Get Computer Surprise ..... 9

The Corps Crowd ..... 10

Twins Given Honorary Award by U.S. Army ..... 10

EAGLEs Construct Fish Habitat at Barkley ..... 11

Just To Be on the Safe Side ..... 12

## Get Free Packing Materials from U.S. Postal Service

The United States Postal Service is offering free packing materials to spouses and families of military members who are deployed overseas. To take advantage of this service, call: **1-800-610-8734** and press 1 for English and then 3 for an operator to order free boxes, packing materials, tape and mailing labels. These products are to be used to mail care packages to deployed service members.

You can order every item you’ll need, even the Priority Tape. Simply call the 800 number above. Some of the items you can get are:

- Box 7 12x12x8 and/or
- Box 4 7x7x6
- 106A - Labels
- Form 2976A - Customs Form
- Form 2976E - Envelope for Customs Form

Priority Labeling Tape

While not yet available, a spokesman for the Postal Service said the agency may soon offer the same service via the internet. You will still have to pay postage on your packages. The postage is **NOT FREE!**



photo by Dave Treadway

## On the Cover

Third District Congressman Zack Wamp speaks to the news media Oct. 22 at Chickamauga Lock, flanked by Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works John Paul Woodley and Operations Manager Tom Hood. He and ASA Woodley announced that the project had been granted a waiver and is now better positioned to be included in the President’s budget. For complete story, see page 6.

## District Digest

**Commander**  
Lt. Col. Byron G. Jorns

**Public Affairs Officer**  
Ed Evans

**Editor**  
Dave Treadway

**Online Editor**  
Steven Foshee

**Circulation**  
IMO (Mail Center)

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Written material may also be sent electronically to the editors at the following e-mail addresses:  
[david.s.treadway@usace.army.mil](mailto:david.s.treadway@usace.army.mil)  
[steven.c.foshee@usace.army.mil](mailto:steven.c.foshee@usace.army.mil)

Information about the Nashville District may also be found on the District’s homepage at: <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil>.

## EAGLES Construct Fish Habitat at Barkley

by J.W. Purcell

The focus was on fish when the 2004 EAGLES (Employees Achieving Greatness in Leadership Excellence) gathered at Lake Barkley Oct. 21 . . . well actually fish habitat. Lake Barkley Ranger and EAGLE class member Kayl Kite supervised the construction and placement of 60 fish attractors in the vicinity of the closed campground and boat ramp at Cannon Springs.

Class members created fish attractors by lashing brush or cedar trees together into bundles, tying them firmly to concrete blocks with nylon cord, and sinking them at depths of 8-18 feet perpendicular to the shoreline. Although more permanent fish attractor structures can be made from wooden stakes, PVC pipe, or even tires; the brush-type structures are more quickly and cheaply constructed and last 5-6 years.

The structures attract bass, crappie, and bream which seek cover and shelter. Fish attractors also provide areas where certain fish can find food and suitable places to spawn. The attractors can harbor large numbers of invertebrates and insect larvae, primarily by offering an attachment surface for other food organisms.

Students at Ohio State University evaluated brush piles, stake beds, and evergreen trees for their effectiveness in concentrating fish. All three types were deemed acceptable, but anglers typically caught more fish from evergreen structures – sometimes five to ten times more fish. The study revealed that bluegills and crappie made up 90 percent of the total catch from artificial structures. Largemouth bass, yellow perch, and channel catfish were caught in lesser numbers.

The study showed bluegill preferred structures at the 12-foot depth. Crappie liked cover 18-21 feet deep, especially in summer and early fall. Fish attractors in water 6-8 feet deep work best only in the spring. Beginning in June, these shallower structures are used mostly by very small fish.

Once constructed, the new ‘attractors’ were transported by boat and sunk at the appropriate places. Class members Mark



EAGLE class members assemble fish attractors on the shore of Lake Barkley from a variety of materials.

Klimaszewski and Mark Vaughn operated the two boats equipped with depth finders, while Cory Morgan operated the chainsaw on the brush detail. Rangers typically place fish attractors in the fall and winter as time

permits and had placed 30 at Lake Barkley last year. The EAGLE class was able to double last year’s effort in one day, and then conducted a trash clean-up on the way out.



Members of the 2004 EAGLE class visited Chickamauga Lock July 30 and observed the lock dewatering process. Members now realize the tremendous amount of coordination that must take place between various Corps elements when a dewatering occurs. Project Manager Matt Tays met and escorted the class. Safety Specialist Bill Bennett helped answer questions posed by the group. Charlie Bryan explained the work performed by members of the Nashville District Dive Team around upstream intakes and the necessary safety measures that must be followed to perform such work. EAGLE team members descended into the empty lock chamber to view work up close. Most saw such areas for the first time. Several EAGLEs even ventured inside the discharge ports to observe conditions visible only during dewatering.



# The Corps Crowd

## Welcome to ...

...Gary Bruce, park ranger, to Center Hill Lake.

## Congratulations to ...

...the entire Nashville District team! The final scoring for the FY 04 Nashville Business Plan has been compiled and the District achieved 91 points, plus three bonus points, for a total of 94! That means all have earned the team award for success.

...Dena Williams and Jeff Orten for contributing to the success of Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration activities with the Nashville District and along the entire length of the Ohio River during the past four years. Dena served as the District coordinator from 2001 to 2002 and Jeff has served since 2002. Both attended partnering and planning meetings, assisted in setting up public interpretive programs throughout the District, and arranged for District personnel to support the Corps interpretive barge as it made its 1000-mile trip down the Ohio River during the summer and fall of 2003. Their efforts helped the Corps serve more than 200,000 members of the public.

...the 2004 EAGLE Class who graduates Nov. 10 at 2 p.m. in Belmont University: Ariana Beck-Scott, Mary Ann Brannan, James Byrd, Kathy Canaday, Gary Davis, Aaron Gillespie, Kayl Kite, Mark Klimaszewski, Jerry Lindsey, Lannae Long, Cory Morgan, J. W. Purcell, Mark Vaughan, Rex Wakefield, Kelly Wanamaker, and Butch Witcher.

...Gail Floyd, an accountant in the District Resource Management Office, for being named the 2004 “Most Valuable Player” for the Nashville District Golf League. This award is given annually to the player who wins the most points during league play.

...members of Hydropower Training Class XIV on their successful completion of phase 2. Training class members are Ron Gatlin, Jr., Jeff Hayes, Alex Hays, Jimmy Johnson, Brian Jones, Jason Kennedy, Chris Meeks, Chris Stempson, Monte Wells and Brad Wilkerson.

...David Denton, volunteer clerk, Dale Hollow powerplant, who was presented the Commander’s Award for Civilian Service by the District Engineer at the mid-Cumberland Area Picnic Oct. 28.

## Baby Brigade to ...

...grandparents Harold “Lew” Lewis, Old Hickory supply tech, and wife Gale on the birth of their first granddaughter, Liliana Alexandrea Lewis, on Oct. 7, who arrived weighing 5 pounds, 14 ounces. Parents are Timothy and Shannon Lewis of Nashville.



...Victoria Hooper’s daughter, Kimberly, and son-in-law Sean Riley of Columbia, Tenn., are the proud parents of her third grandson, Joshua Scott, born Oct. 20, and weighing 7 pounds, 7.5 ounces. Hooper works in Human Resources.

## Sympathy to ...

...the family of Wanda Coleman, Human Resources Office, whose mother, Juanita Young, passed away Oct. 5.

...the family of Mark Kuhlo, Engineering Construction Division, whose father, Carl

Kuhlo, passed away Oct. 9. He was 94.

...the family of Ed Morris, whose mother, Lavinia Morris, passed away Oct. 9 in Panama City, Fla., after a battle with bone cancer.

...the family of John Tibbels, Safety Office, whose brother David Tibbels, passed away Oct. 27.

## Thank you to ...

...my Corps family for your prayers, words of encouragement, cards and everything you did for me. This past summer will go down as a bad memory. We were all led to believe that my mom was having routine surgery. Well, God had other plans. Please bear with me as I try to recover from being gone for four months. I’ll try to catch up. Again, thanks for all you’ve done and continue to do for me. Please continue to keep me and my family in your prayers. - *Wanda Coleman*

...all employees who donated food items to Second Harvest Food Bank. Your contributions are greatly appreciated and will help someone who is in real need. (Boxes were placed in the federal building where employees placed donations of flour, sugar, canned goods, rice, beans, pasta, box items, etc.)

## Twins Given Honorary Award by U.S. Army



(from left) McGavock High School band students Daniel Foshee, Eric Griffin, and Thomas Foshee proudly display certificates naming them honorary members of the United States Army Field Band and Soldiers’ Chorus following a concert at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center. Master Sergeant Kerry Willingham (right) presented the awards. The twins are the sons of Corps Public Affairs Specialist Steven Foshee.

## Lieutenant Colonel Byron Jorns

# From Where I Sit

Folks ... I’d like to give you an update on our FY05 budget and the outlook for FY06. As you know, there is a lot of uncertainty regarding our actual ‘05 budget figures ... and this will continue during this period of Continuing Resolution Authority (CRA). However, some baseline planning guidance is known to us and some decisions about how to proceed are prudent at this point. The bottom line: we believe FY05 will be a pretty good year from a budget perspective. However, it is possible that FY06 will not be as healthy. As a result, it is imperative that some decisions are made this year in order to posture the District for a somewhat lean FY06. Additionally, we have been informed by HQUSACE that all districts will be expected to reduce overhead expenditures by 10% in FY06. To achieve this, at a minimum, Nashville District will need to take the following actions: 1) eliminate the FY05 Team Award (which is paid with FY06 funds); 2)

### Communication

give additional scrutiny to all hiring actions; 3) reduce training and travel costs; 4) reduce computer purchases. All of these actions are unpalatable, but our choices are limited in how we can achieve overhead savings. The senior leaders are aware of these goals and are formulating their budgets to comply with this guidance.

...our major challenge with the FY05 budget is the uncertainty imposed by the Continuing Resolution Authority (CRA). This presents a huge execution challenge. I ask everyone to be flexible as we move through the year. FY06 seems to be our greatest challenge and I think some of the measures mentioned above will help posture us for what lies ahead.

...as I’ve mentioned before, the Nashville District is getting somewhat smaller. Our Full Time Equivalent (FTE) actual usage has gradually dropped from 818 in FY99 to 750 in FY04 without the use of a reduction in force, hiring freeze, or other extreme measure. This is the correct direction that will keep our

workforce in line with future workload. I want to reiterate that I see no need for extreme measures with regard to FTE. I feel that our natural attrition and the tools of VSIP/VERA will allow us to continue to shape our organization in a normal manner.

...each of our staffs can expect to share in our challenges to reduce expenses and the size of our workforce. ...and with the holidays coming up, I want to say a word about safety.

Thanksgiving and Christmas are renown for serving a particular fare so I offer some safety advice on preparing your turkey for cooking. Thawing safely is very important.

In the refrigerator:  
Thaw the turkey in its original wrap on a tray placed in the bottom section of the refrigerator.

Allow about 24 hours of defrost time for every five pounds of turkey. For example, a 20-pound turkey will take four to five days to thaw.

Do not thaw on the counter. Thawing at room temperature increases the risk of bacteria growth.



In cold water:  
Thawing in cold water is safe too. Submerge the bird in its wrapper in a deep sink of cold water and change the water every 30 minutes to keep it cold.

Allow 30 minutes per pound to defrost a turkey in cold water. Do not use warm or hot water.

Microwave Thawing:  
Check manufacturer’s instructions for the size turkey that will fit into your oven.

Caution: Microwave defrosting is irregular, creating hot spots, which may encourage bacteria growth. Cook the turkey immediately after defrosting. Do not store in the refrigerator for cooking later. 🍗

## October Employee of the Month

Joanne Mann, a budget analyst in the Resource Management Office, has been selected as the Nashville District Employee of the Month for October.

In addition to accomplishing her extensive year-end budget duties, she has given exceptional customer service to the General & Administrative Staff and other offices by coordinating activities, troubleshooting problems, and providing guidance and assistance in CEFMS to achieve District performance goals for year-end budget execution.

There were a large number of short-term, quick-turnaround actions that she accomplished with both efficiency and professionalism. Mann consistently demonstrated patience, responsiveness, respect, and consideration for her customers. Many times she made

personal sacrifices when working longer hours was required to accomplish tasks and meet assigned deadlines but still maintained a positive attitude to accomplish the mission.

Senior leaders select the Nashville District Employee of the Month from the many excellent employees identified by the District’s chain of command.

Selected individuals personify the seven Army values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage. 🍷



Joanne Mann



# Bill Barron Named New Chief of H&H

by Dave Treadway

Bill Barron was recently selected for promotion to Chief of the Hydrology and Hydraulics Branch, the position vacated by Dennis Williams upon his retirement.

In that role, he will oversee water management and water resources, something to which he is looking forward.

“This job is extremely challenging and interesting,” said the native of Lewisburg, Tenn. “My role in this position will be to oversee water management and water resources. My former role was to oversee only water resources. One of the key things we will do is get the Corps’ Water Management System up and running which is a system model for the Cumberland River.”

The new chief feels that one area under his purview will get more attention in the near future.

“The Corps already has Water Supply as one of its business lines,” Barron explained, “and I think sources for supply are going to become more and more of an issue as the nation grows and the population increases. It will come to the forefront during the next few years,” Barron predicted.



Bill Barron

“Nashville is becoming much more like Atlanta, spreading out and going into surrounding counties. Of course, Nashville has a good source of water supply in the Cumberland River, but there are other communities which are not fortunate to be in good pipeline distance of a major river. Portland, Tenn., comes to mind, as does the counties of Cumberland, Giles, Wayne, Lawrence, and Lewis.”

Barron first earned a degree in English Literature from the University of the South at Sewanee, Tenn., then a master of arts in teaching with an emphasis in English Literature before teaching at Olive Branch High School in Mississippi and Booker T. Washington High School in Memphis.

He even had aspirations of becoming a lawyer before doing a stint in the Army as a military police officer and discovering something he didn’t enjoy.

“In that role I spent all of my time dealing with ‘the bad element of society’ and found it ‘less than pleasant.’”

He decided then to pursue a degree in Mechanical Engineering at Tennessee State University and worked for 12 years for the U.S. Geological Survey Office before joining the Nashville District in 1993.

“It would have been easier,” said Barron, “to go back and get my PH.D. in English than to go on and get my degree in Engineering,” but he admitted that the pay is now much better.

In his spare time, the Goodlettsville resident enjoys watching his youngest daughter play softball for the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. She will graduate next year.

# Overlook at J.Percy Priest Given Major Facelift

Story and photo by Steven Foshee

J. Percy Priest Lake is taking on a new look as part of the Recreation Excellence at Army Lakes (REAL) Program.

Improvements already made at the J. Percy Priest overlook area include new sidewalks, planting of selected vegetation, and the addition of access for handicapped patrons to several fishing areas. The REAL Program permitted the use of funds to continue the development of this pristine site.

The renovation of the overlook is an opportunity to improve safety and security, as well as the appearance of the area, according to Facility Manager Greg Thomas. He said design plans include a one-way traffic loop to improve traffic flow and provide a safe entrance to and

exit from the area. A large portion of the paved area was removed, replaced with topsoil and seeded with grass. Trees will be planted throughout the area, which will provide shade for additional features such as park benches.

Visitors to J. Percy Priest Dam will also notice some other improvements within the next year, according to Resource Manager Todd Yann.

“We have received quite a bit of public interest,” said Yann, “in the work going on below the dam, and Metro Parks will soon have a quality facility available that will allow visitors to access the Stones River Greenway.” Both the Greenway and the renovations to the overlook will provide numerous recreation opportunities to the public.



The new parking lot at J. Percy Priest Lake.

The Flood Control Act of 1946 authorized what was then called Stewarts Ferry Reservoir. On July 2, 1958, Public Law 85-496 changed the name to J. Percy Priest in honor of the late Congressman from Tennessee.

Construction of the dam began in June 1963 and was completed in 1968. The overlook area was designed for the dedication as a staging area. On June 29, 1968 President Lyndon B. Johnson dedicated Stewarts Ferry Reservoir.

# Students at Three Metro Schools Get Computer Surprise

story and photos by Steven Foshee

Students at Mt. View Elementary, Thomas A. Edison Elementary, and Tulip Grove Elementary Schools will benefit from an improved learning environment created by 35 computers considered excess by the Nashville District in October.

Jim Hughes, Robert Johnson, William James and Don McMillan delivered the excess computers Oct. 21 to cheers from excited students.

“Computers can be excellent alternatives for getting work done,” said Melissa Foshee, a special education teacher at Mt. View Elementary, “instead of utilizing the standard pencil and paper, especially for kids with deficiencies in fine motor skills. Most students view this as an award and not additional class work which allows me to cover more material.” Foshee said it is vital that students with learning disabilities are also introduced to technology and become familiar with a computer. She said such skills will assist these students now and also as they transition from elementary grades to middle school.

Dr. Linda Collins, principal of Mt. View, enrolled in the Computers For Learning



Alternative learning methods are implemented at Mt. View Elementary School with the use of excess Corps computers.

Program on the internet at <http://www.drms.dla.mil>. She then worked closely with Nashville District’s Jim Hughes in Logistics Management who coordinated the property donation through Mt. View Media Specialist Bonnie Street.

Collins and her staff explored ways to incorporate the computers in both a computer lab and a classroom environment. The school received 20 other computers earlier in the spring and added 15 in the most recent delivery. She is no stranger to the Corps of Engineers. Her staff has helped develop numerous products, such as water safety coloring books, public service announcements

and parent/teacher support for safety, for distribution by the Corps’ Water Safety Products Committee.

Ronald Powe, principal at Edison Elementary, observed the Corps’ community outreach program and their commitment at Mt. View Elementary School and wanted to be a part of this success story.

“There isn’t enough kind words to say about what the Corps is doing in our communities around Nashville,” said Powe. “We are appreciative of both the Mt. View staff and the Corps.”

Denise Colon, principal at Tulip Grove Elementary, and Assistant Principal Stephanie Hoskins were also pleased with the Corps’ commitment to education. One Tulip Grove teacher was jumping with joy as the Corps truck rolled into view. She offered Halloween treats to James and Johnson as they unloaded the computers and placed them in classrooms. Children cheered as each computer rolled past their desk and gave the pair a standing ovation when they were finished with delivery.

Edison Elementary also received 15 computers, while Tulip Grove was awarded five in the District’s community outreach program.



(from left) Jim Hughes, Logistics Management Office, Bonnie Street, Media Specialist at Mt. View Elementary School, Robert Johnson and William James unload excess computers at Mt. View Elementary School on Murfreesboro Road.



## A Carter Family Tradition

# Serving Our Country, Both at Home and Abroad

by Ranger Mark Willis

A page of Tennessee history was being written in the valleys and river bottoms of Dekalb County in 1947, but only a handful of men were on hand to see it unfold. Stanley Carter, of Livingston, Tenn., not only witnessed them, he was one of the authors.

Carter was one of 15 men from Overton and Clay Counties hired to ‘clear the land’ prior to inundation by the rising waters of a brand new lake that would bear the name Center Hill. Only this small timber crew witnessed these sweeping changes to the landscape. The previous residents had departed after selling their land to the government.

Carter and his co-workers lived in a small cabin on Mine Lick Creek for eight



**Stanley Carter (right) with co-workers.** months while they took part in this unusual undertaking. Since Carter was considered the best cook in the group, he prepared most of the meals for the hardy group of loggers spending their weekdays away from home.

Day after day, these 15 men busily cleaned out fencerows and cut the smaller standing timber (the larger trees in these areas had previously been removed by a logging company). The brush and timber they collected were then stacked into large piles and burned. Activities such as these would be considered strenuous work today even with the help of bulldozers and chainsaws, but these hard-working Overton and Clay County men had no such equipment. Except for a single

Caterpillar winch (to pull limbs and logs up the hillsides) their only tools were axes and cross-cut saws, and work was performed by the sweat of their brow via old-fashioned hand labor.

Carter and crew were each paid 75 cents per hour – which, amazingly, was considered good pay back then, since the average pay in those days was 50 cents per hour.

Stanley Carter was also a part of the beginning history of Lake Cumberland. He was hired to help clear the land in Clinton County, Kentucky, for \$.85 an hour prior to that area being covered by water.

During the latter part of 1949, Carter then helped install lines which would eventually provide water to all buildings and facilities below Dale Hollow Dam.

Two years later, Stanley Carter was once again working for the federal government, after joining the United States Army in 1951. In the years ahead, 1967-1968 would prove to be especially memorable for Carter, when he served as a Section Chief of a Firing Battery in Vietnam during some of the fiercest fighting of the war. (He was awarded the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross.)

During his Army career, Carter served at U.S. bases in Missouri, Colorado, Georgia, Arkansas, Washington, Maryland, Oklahoma, Germany, and South Korea.

In 1975, Stanley Carter was honorably discharged from the Army after



**John**



**Stanley**



**Stanley, Jr.**



**Dale Hollow Electrician Stanley Carter, Jr., (from left) Stanley Carter, and Park Contact Inspector Jimmy Carter.**

serving more than 24 years of active duty and also earning both the Meritorious Service Medal and the Bronze Star.

Serving our country has been a long-standing tradition for the Carter family. Grandfather Z.B. Carter was a Confederate soldier during the Civil War, father John Carter was a World War I veteran, and brother John H. Carter was a World War II veteran. Son Johnny Carter has also served in the military, and son Stanley Carter, Jr., is a veteran of Operation DESERT STORM during the Gulf War.

While Stanley Carter was involved in historic work projects associated with the beginnings of *three* different Corps lakes, two sons are currently employed at Dale Hollow. Jimmy Carter is a Dale Hollow Lake park contract inspector and Stanley Carter, Jr., is a Dale Hollow powerplant electrician. Jimmy, with 15 years with the federal government, has also worked at Old Hickory Lake in Nashville, as well as Center Hill Lake in Lancaster, Tenn. Stanley, now in his third year of service, has also worked at the Old Hickory powerplant.

Through the years, the Carter family heritage has been extraordinary - members have readily stepped forward to help protect this nation’s freedom during the perils of war, while members

**For complete story, go to <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/pao/digest/>**

# Lake Barkley’s Kuttawa Ramp to be Expanded

Story and photo by  
Dave Treadway

Congressman Ed Whitfield (R-KY) joined Corps of Engineers representatives and state and county partners Oct. 21 at Lake Barkley to break ground for what will become the lake’s largest boat launching ramp at Old Kuttawa Recreation Area.

The Boat Ramp will be expanded to accommodate 109 vehicles and to simultaneously launch four craft.

The Lyon County Joint Tourism Commission, with assistance from the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, will partner with the Corps of Engineers to expand the facility to accommodate more boaters, according to Activities Director Jan Crick.

“We were looking for ways to expand tourism in the county,” said Crick, “and more parking for those who want to use the beautiful waters of Lake Barkley will certainly help in that effort.”

Congressman Whitfield congratulated those present for finding a way to expand the facility.

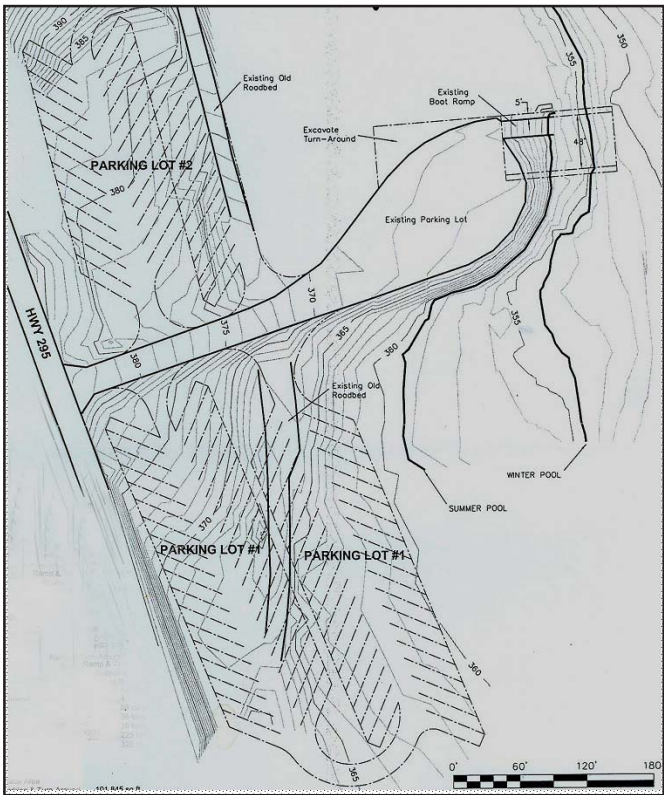
“It will greatly benefit Lyon County,” said Whitfield, “and help draw many to the area who enjoy water-based recreation.”

The Joint Tourism Commission will fund the expansion with about \$140,000, said Crick, which may be collected from various local sponsors. The Kentucky Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Resources has already funded the Engineering and Design phase so planning could be completed for the project.

The property belongs to the Army Corps of Engineers so property acquisition was not an issue that had to be solved. The ramp will currently park 12 vehicles and launch one boat at a time. The expanded boat



**(from left) Eddie Spraggs, representing the Commonwealth of Kentucky, watches Tom Bennett, Commissioner, Kentucky Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Jim Sutor, Chairman, Lyon County Joint Tourism Commission, Lt. Col. Byron Jorns, District Engineer, First District Cong. Ed Whitfield, and Sarah Boyd, Lyon County Judge Executive, use shovels to break ground for the Kuttawa Ramp expansion Oct. 21.**



launching facility is expected to be open and ready for use next spring and Resource Manager Mike Looney said a fee will not be assessed for boaters to launch craft.

Boaters will be inconvenienced during the expansion and are encouraged to use the boat launching ramps at the Corps’ Poplar Creek, the State Park ramp at Mineral Mounds, or the ramps at Kuttawa Harbor and Buzzard Rock Marina.

**A graphic depiction of the expansion, designed by Ky. Dept. of Fish & Wildlife Resources.**



Chickamauga Lock Project

Congressman Wamp, ASA Woodley Make Announcement

by Dave Treadway

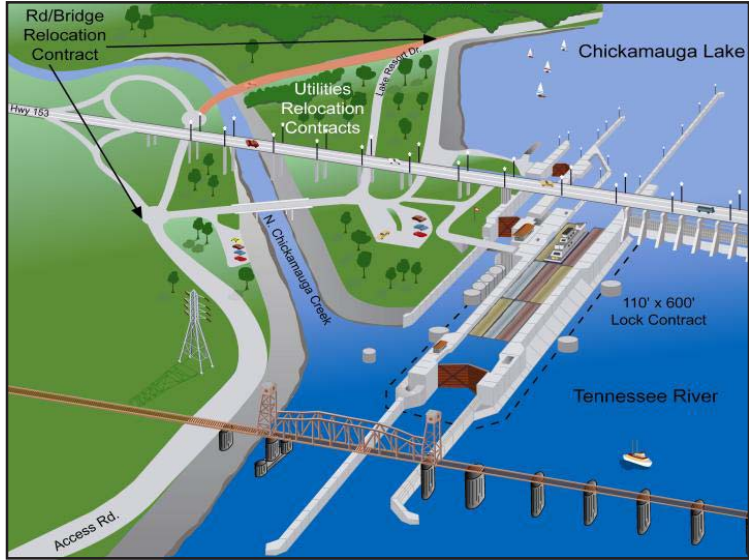
The District’s Chickamauga Lock Replacement Project is now better positioned to be included in future budgets drafted and approved by the White House, said officials October 22 in Chattanooga. Congressman Zack Wamp (1<sup>st</sup> District) and John Paul Woodley, Jr., assistant secretary of the Army for Civil Works, made the announcement during a press conference held on the wall of the aging facility.

For the very first time, the Office of Management and Budget has agreed to waive the normal cost-benefit rules for a major water project so that the President can support plans for a \$310 million lock over the previously preferred \$285 million option in Chattanooga. Woodley said the OMB decision will allow the President to recommend more funding for the larger lock.

“This is unquestionably a step forward on the road to getting the project fully supported and fully funded,” Woodley said



photo by Dave Treadway



Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works John Paul Woodley answers questions from the media Oct. 22 at Chickamauga Lock. The lock project (left) is now better positioned to be included in the President’s budget.

during his second visit to the project this year. “This allows us to have the pieces in place to consider this project appropriately going forward as it competes within the Corps of Engineers budget recommendations by the President.”

The White House budget earlier this year did not include

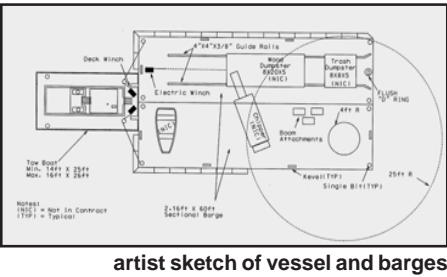
funding for the lock replacement project because it was not deemed the most cost-effective by the Corps.

Economists considered the 75-by-400-foot lock more cost effective than the 110-by-600 lock. Congress, however, authorized the larger lock in 2003 and the U.S. House of Representatives adopted a budget with another \$14 million for the design of the larger lock in the current fiscal year. Backers argued that the larger size would bring Chickamauga Lock on a par with other downstream locks and promote more barge commerce.

“This is the smallest lock on the Tennessee system,” said Rep. Wamp, “and it is not adequate for current conditions to support the navigation mission. One of the most important things I have faced as a lawmaker is to keep the Tennessee River open to Navigation.”

Rep. Wamp pointed out the environmental benefits of keeping the lock open. The Congressman said closure of Chickamauga Lock would add 100,000 trucks each year to area highways to carry cargo that presently passes through the lock.

“The repercussions,” Rep. Wamp pointed out, “if this lock was forced to close, is that you put all this cargo off into other modes of transportation. If you go out onto one of our major interstates like ’75 and you see all the truck traffic that we currently have, which already exceeds what those highways were built to accommodate, you know we can’t have another 100,000 plus trucks per year with the cargo that goes through this river. The cleanest form of transportation for this commerce is by barge on this river.”



The *PRIDE OF THE CUMBERLAND*, an integrated floating plant designed to remove drift and debris from Lake Cumberland, will be commissioned and put in service to perform that work when the craft is delivered this month.

The floating plant will consist of two modular barges and a small towboat, and can also be used for other marine-related work on the lake. When the floating plant is placed in service, it will be staffed with three Nashville District employees. Gary Burke, former team leader at the Cumberland River Operations Center, will pilot the vessel, and other Eastern Kentucky Area team members will assist during peak operation periods.

A project delivery team (PDT) was formed last summer to investigate various options for acquiring a suitable vessel or vessels to remove large amounts of floating drift in the vicinity of Waitsboro Recreation Area near Somerset, Kentucky. Mark Hallar, senior civil engineer, Operations Division, Management Support Branch, served as project manager with team members Ray Bess, civil engineering technician, Bill Debruyne, civil engineer, and David Bethurum, chief, Management Support Branch.

The team received valuable input from Eastern Kentucky Operations Manager Tom Hale, Lake Cumberland Resource Manager Craig Shoe, and Facilities Manager Bernie Kearns to develop a prototype that would meet Lake Cumberland’s unique requirements and customer needs. From the team’s sketches and notes, Tim Rochelle, Project Management Branch, then created detailed computer drawings for prospective bidders.

The PDT conducted market research, followed a competitive bid process, and awarded a best-value supply contract to Advanced Industrial and Marine, of Mobile, Ala., to build the towboat and two barges for about \$350,000.

Bethurum described the floating plant.

“The towboat is a twin-screw vessel,” he explained, “25 feet, 6 inches long with a 15-foot, 6-inch beam and 4-foot, 4-inch operating draft. The boat is powered by twin, John Deere™ Model 6068, turbocharged, keel-cooled, diesel engines and Twin Disc, MG5050 marine gears producing 420 horsepower. The vessel is fitted with independent steering and flanking rudders operated through a redundant hydraulic steering system. A 10 KW John Deere™ diesel generator supplies AC and DC shipboard power, including air conditioning and heating for the galley and pilothouse.

“The vessel also has a state-of-the-art, U.S. Coast Guard-approved marine sanitation device, on-board storage capacity for 1,800 gallons of diesel fuel, an automatic CO2-fire-suppression system and a



THE PRIDE OF THE CUMBERLAND under construction at Advanced Industrial and Marine in Mobile, Ala.

RACOR fuel filtration system. The pilothouse is equipped with modern navigational aids including VHF and AM/FM radios, an integral PA system, searchlight, and fathometer.”

Bethurum said the two barges, each 16 feet wide and 60 feet long, will pin together to form a work platform that measures 60-by-32 feet. He said one barge will be equipped with a Prentice™ Knuckle Boom Hydraulic Crane capable of lifting 2,500 pounds. A Vermeer™ industrial chipper will be placed within the crane’s working radius to process recyclable material for upland disposal.

The other barge will have a ramp on the bow and will be fitted with bed rails to facilitate roll-on, roll-off loading and unloading of industrial dumpsters, one to store chipped recyclables and the other for non-recyclable trash. Shoe and Kearns located and secured disposal areas for the recyclable material at no cost to the government. The non-recyclable material that is collected will be placed in a landfill.

The barges are modular, and because of their size, can be trucked overland and launched on-site where they will be pinned together. The towboat is built in three separate sections: the hull and main deck, the deckhouse, and the pilothouse. Bethurum said it was assembled in Mobile, where he ran it through sea trials in Mobile Bay, then it was disassembled for transportation to Lake Cumberland. The boat will be trucked to an approved boat ramp on Lake Cumberland where it will be reassembled and launched.

PRIDE OF THE CUMBERLAND will work the majority of her underway time in alliance with PRIDE (Personal Responsibility In a Desirable Environment), an initiative launched in 1997 by Congressman Hal Rogers and the late General James Bickford, former secretary of the Kentucky Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet.